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# Professor Jacques Rottembourg, MD, France

- Professor of Nephrology
- Department of Nephrology, Hôpital de la Pitié,
   Paris, France

 Conflict of Interest: Honorarium from Amgen, Fresenius, Vifor, Pharmacosmos for presentations at different meetings







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# Substitution: clinical observations of differences in efficacy and efficiency (input versus output)

Professor Jacques Rottembourg, MD Department of Nephrology, Hôpital de la Pitié, Paris-France

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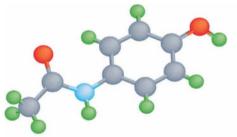




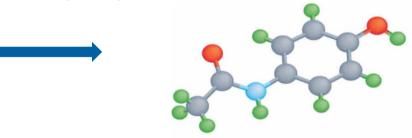


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# Why the generic paradigm does not apply to iron sucrose preparations



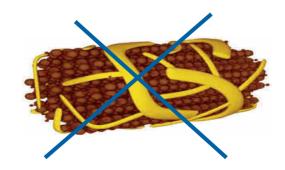




"Generic" (identical copy)



Complex molecule



"Similar" (non identical copy)





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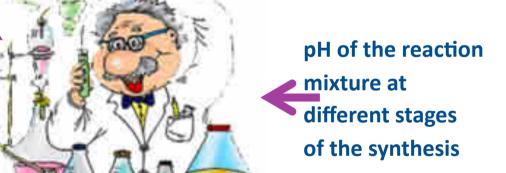
# Parameters that influence the manufacturing process of iron sucrose

**Concentrations of the reagents** 

**Purification procedures** 

#### **Synthetic procedure**

(Isolation of core then addition of sucrose ligand; production of core in the presence of ligand)



#### **Starting materials**

(Iron source (e.g.  $FeCl_3$  or  $Fe_2(SO_4)_3$ ); Base (e.g. NaOH, Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> or NH<sub>3</sub>)



**Reaction time** 

**Reaction temperature** 





# 8 October 2013, Hilton Kuala Lumpur, Kuala Lumpur Malaysia "European ISS Study" **Venofer® versus 4 European ISS Preparations**

Brand (Country)	ISS Preparations	Manufacturer		
Ferroven <sup>®</sup> (Turkey)  ISS1		Santa Farma, IstanbuI, Turkey		
Fer Mylan (France) ISS2		Help SA Pharmaceuticals, Athens, Greece		
Ferrovin (Greece) ISS3		Rafarm Pharmaceuticals, Athens, Greece		
FerMed <sup>®</sup> (Germany, Austria)	ISS4	Medice Arzneimittel GmbH Pütter Iserlohn, Germany		

Venofer <sup>®</sup>	IS	Vifor International, St Gallen, Switzerland
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# **Context**

- Patients with Chronic Renal Failure treated by dialysis frequently present anaemia related to deficit of Iron and Erythropoietin.
- Control of anaemia requires ESA and Iron treatment.
- Two iron-complexes are available in France: Venofer®, Cosmofer®.
- From 2003 up to 2009, the exclusive use of Venofer® in the dialysis unit resulted in good control of anaemia together with Aranesp® (ESA) administered once every week then once every two weeks.







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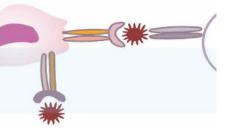
# **Long-Term satisfactory Clinical Situation with Venofer®**

Year	Nb Sessions per year	Mean Hb g/dL		Consumption Venofer® ampoules
2006	13846	11,72		2600
2007	14218	11,88	178860	2650
2008	14596	11,82	167880	2700





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# **Context**

- Patients with Chronic Renal Failure treated by dialysis frequently present with anaemia related to deficit of Iron and Erythropoietin. Control of anaemia requires ESA and Iron treatment
- Two iron-saccharose complexes are available in France: Venofer® and Cosmofer®
- From 2003 up to 2008, the exclusive use of Venofer® in the dialysis unit resulted in good control of anaemia together with Aranesp® (ESA) administered once every week then once every two weeks
- Due to a recent modification of supply, by the Pharmacy of all hospitals in Paris, without any knowledge of this change, Fer Mylan<sup>®</sup> was substituted for Venofer<sup>®</sup> in all dialysis units and specially in our (Centre Suzanne Levy Paris).
- Following the switch the physician in the unit noted that there was a rapid change in anaemia parameters.







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# **Objectives of the study**

# Main objective:

• To describe and compare the impact of the switch from Venofer® to Fer Mylan® on anaemia and iron parameters in HD patients.

# Secondary objectives:

- To describe the level of drug consumption for two periods (i.e. before and after the switch).
- To document biological parameters that are routinely collected in this setting.
- To estimate an anaemia drug expenditure for the two periods.







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# **Material and methods**

- Observational, non-interventional phase IV study.
- Open-label, retrospective and prospective comparison of Venofer® and Fer Mylan® based on routinely collected data.
- Patient population consisted of HD patients receiving regular dialysis follow-up at the centre.
- Comparison of two 27-week periods:
  - P1: 01 December 08 → 07 June 09 (Venofer®)
  - P2: 29 June 09 → 03 January 10 (Fer Mylan®)
  - Data for part of June were excluded because the two products were simultaneously available.

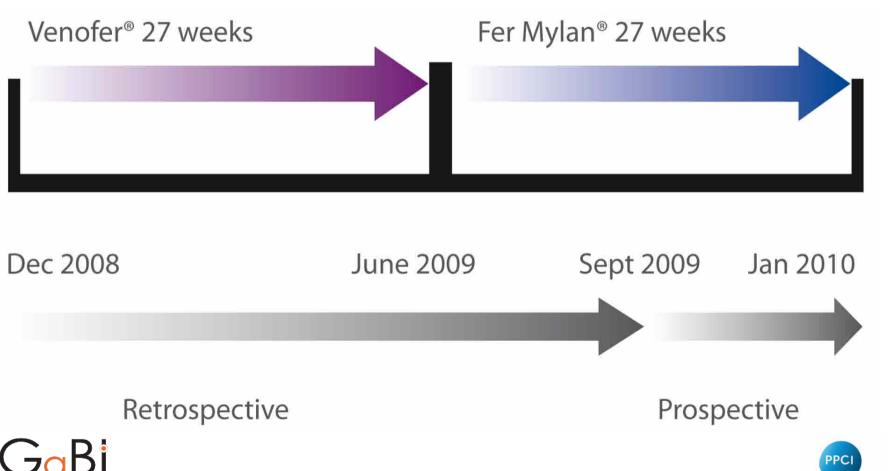




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# Study design





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## Iron and ESA treatments

# **I.V. iron treatments:**

- •Venofer® (5 mL ampoules of 100 mg iron) and Fer Mylan® (5 mL ampoules of 100 mg iron) prescribed according to local SmPC.
- •I.V. iron was administered once a week during the second dialysis session at weekly dosages varying from 25-100 mg iron.

# **ESA:**

- •Aranesp® (Darbepoetin-α [DA], Amgen, Thousand Oaks, CA, USA).
- •DA was injected intravenously once every two weeks (even weeks) on Monday or Tuesday.



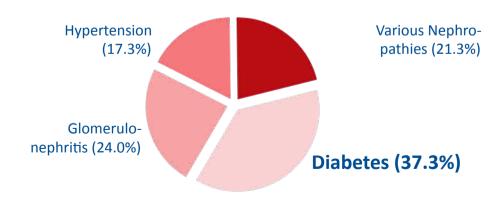




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# **Patient characteristics**

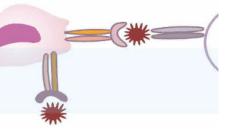
- Study population: 75 patients included in the analysis: same patients in both periods.
- Gender: 31% female and 69% male.
- Age: 63.4 ± 15.2 y [mean ± SD].
  - 61.8 (25.7 89.1) [median (min max)].
- Number of dialysis sessions:
  - P1: 75.1 (5.1)
  - P2: 75.1 (6.3)
- Primary renal diseases:







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**Results:** Hemoglobin

Iron

**ESA** 

**Biological Parameters** 







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# Haemoglobin analysis: overall study period

Hb (g/dL)	Period 1 n=75	Period 2 n=75	P
Mean	11.78	11.48	0.01*
(SD)	(0.99)	(0.98)	
Median	11.80	11.47	0.01**
(min-max)	(8.57-14.14)	(9.20-15.42)	

- \* Paired Student's t-test
- \*\* Median's t-test

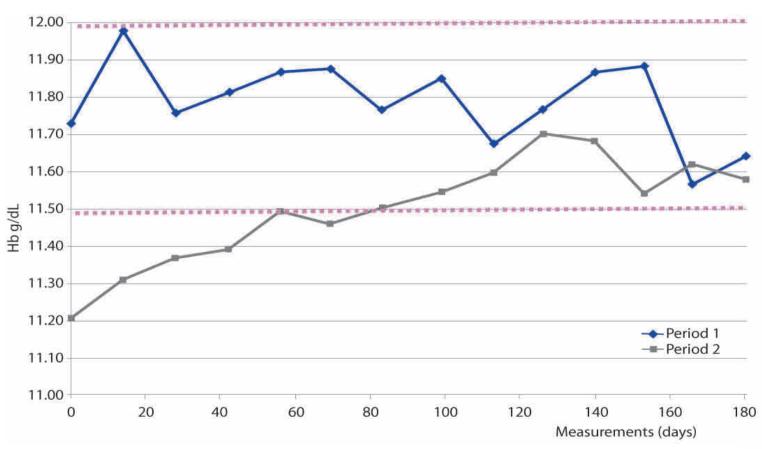






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# Haemoglobin evolution over the study period





Centre Hb target range (11.5 - 12.0 g/dL)





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# Serum ferritin and TSAT parameters: comparison between P1 and September 2009

	Period 1		p*
Number of patients	n=75	n=75	
Serum ferritin (µg/L)			
Mean (SD)	533.8 (327.5)	457.7 (290.4)	
Median (min - max)	551.2 (38.3-1,051.5)	432.1 (13.7-1,541.1)	0.04
TSAT %			
Mean (SD)	49.3 (10.9)	23.3 (10.2)	
Median (min - max)	47.7 (32.0-80.0)	23.0 (5.0-44.0)	<0.0001



\* Paired Student's t-test





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Serum ferritin and TSAT parameters

		I WIII IC	TICITI G	<u>IIG IJAI </u>	<u>Jaraine</u>	<del>(C13</del>	
	Dec o8	Mar o9	Jun 09	Average P1	Sep 09	Dec 09	Average P2
Serum ferritin (µg/L)				р	=0.25 betwee	en P1 and P2*	
No. of patients	70	73	75	75	75	69	75
Mean (SD)	613 (369)	563 (506)	458 (298)	534 (328)	458 (290)	549 (334)	495 (280)
Median (min- max)	632 (11-1727)	435 (25-3063)	447 (15-1416)	551 (38-1502)	432 (14-1541)	498 (13-1751)	475 (14-1595)
TSAT %				p<	0.0001 betwe	een P1 and P2	*
No. of patients	70	73	75	75	75	69	75
Mean (SD)	49.2 (12.5)	48.1 (14.5)	50.0 (13.1)	49·3 (10.9)	23.3 (10.2)	26.4 (10.7)	24.5 (9.4)
Median  (min-B)  Max  GENERICS AND BK	49.0 (27-86)	44.0 (23-110)	48.0 (26-86)	47·7 (32-80)	23.0 (5-44)	24.0 (4-55)	24.0 (6-44°5)



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# Iron consumption according to period

	Period 1 Period 2 n=75 n=75		% change	<b>p</b> *
Cumulative dose (mg) – all patients	92,300	92,300 124,250 +34.6%		
Mean dose per patient (SD) (mg)	1,230.7 (879)	) 1,656.7 (836) + <b>34.6</b> %		
Median (range)	1,300 (0-2,800)	1,500 (0-4,100)		0.001
Number of vials – all patients	923.0	1,242.5	+34.6%	
Number of vials / patient (SD)	12.3 (8.8)	16.6 (8.4)	+34.6%	0.001



Building trust in cost-effective treatments

• 6 patients without iron during Period 1

• 1 patient without iron during Period 2







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# **ESA** consumption according to period

	Period 1 n=75			p*
Cumulative dose (µg) – all patients	73,510	82,750	+12.6%	
DA μg/kg/week dose per patient (SD)	0.58 (0.52)	0.66 (0.64)	+13.8%	0.13
Mean dose per patient (SD) (μg)	980.1 (756)	1,103.3 (908)	+12.6%	
Median (min – max)	780 (0-4,200)	78o (o-4,000)	_	0.12



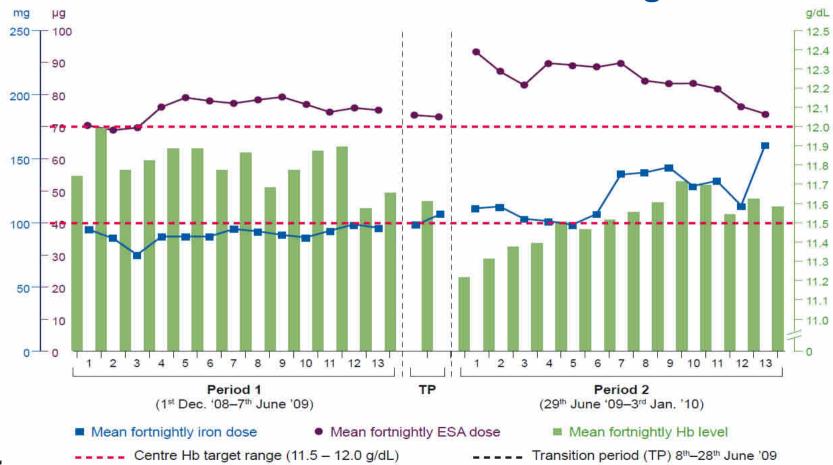
\* Paired Student's t-test





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# Hb evolution in relation to iron and ESA usage in P1 and P2





Building trust in cost-effective treatments





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# **Biological Parameters**

	Period 1	Period 2	p*
Number of patients	n=75	n=75	
Calcium (mmol/L) Mean (SD) / median (min-max)	2.24 (0.16) / 2.22 (1.78-2.62)	2.23 (0.14) / 2.20 (1.88-2.56)	0.35
Phosphorus (mmol/L) Mean (SD) / median (min-max)	1.76 (0.48) / 1.69 (0.61-3.10)	1.63 (0.35) / 1.64 (0.81-2.33)	0.0002
Ca x P Mean (SD) / median (min-max)	3.96 (1.12) / 4.00 (1.35-6.42)	3.65 (0.83) / 3.71 (1.75-5.09)	<0.0001
Alkaline phosphatase (IU/L) Mean (SD) / median (min-max)	109.7 (96.2) / 91.5 (46.5-869)	110.6 (83.4) / 94.5 (46-726.5)	0.83
PTH ng/L Mean (SD) / median (min-max)	359.2 (294.6) / 249 (36-1456.5)	340.5 (262.9) / 273 (31.1290)	0.47



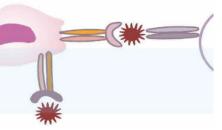


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**Biological Parameters** 

	Period 1	Period 2	<b>p</b> *
Number of patients	n=75	n=75	
CRP mg/L Mean (SD) / median (min-max)	6.45 (6.85) / 3.00 (3.00-42.00)	8.43 (10.46) / 4.00 (3.00-57.5)	0.15
Total Bilirubin (mg/L) Mean (SD) / median (min-max)	7.71 (1.76) / 7.67 (4.33-13.33)	8.77 (2.27) / 8.50 (5.00-18.00)	0.001
Fibrinogen (g/L) Mean (SD) / median (min-max)	4.35 (1.21) / 4.00(2.60-9.53)	4.37 (1.43) / 4.10 (2.00-10.60)	0.8210
γ-GT (U/L) Mean (SD) / median (min-max)	47.76 (54.00) / 28.00 (9.33-295.00)	46.95 (49.01) / 27.00 (10.00-276.00)	0.8268
Aspartate aminotransferase (AST) (UI/L) Mean (SD) / median (min-max)	22.28 (10.87) / 19.33 (11.33-89.33)	22.36 (8.41) / 19.50 (10.50-56.50)	0.9190

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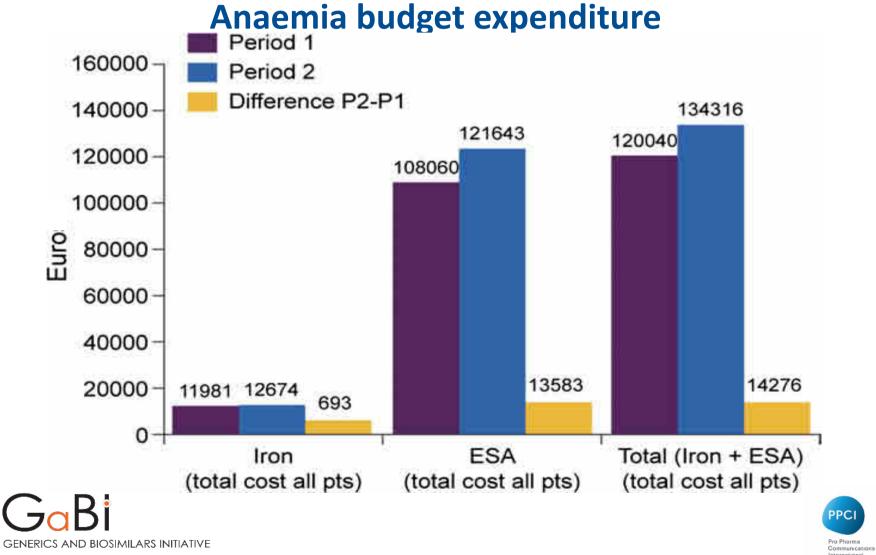
# **Economic aspects of the study**





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# **Discussion**

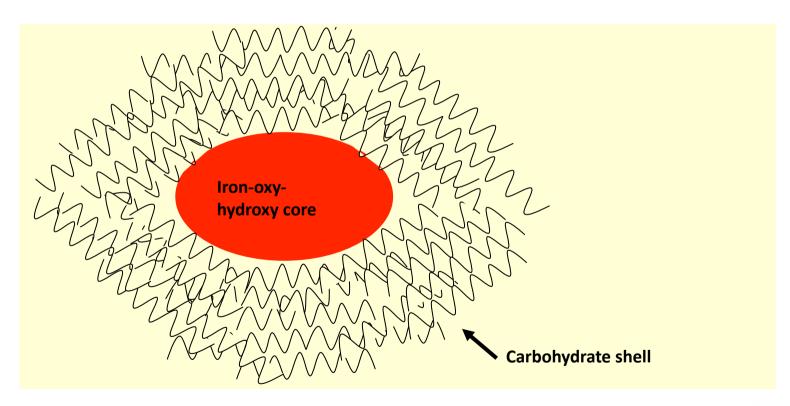






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# The structure of I.V. iron is delicate



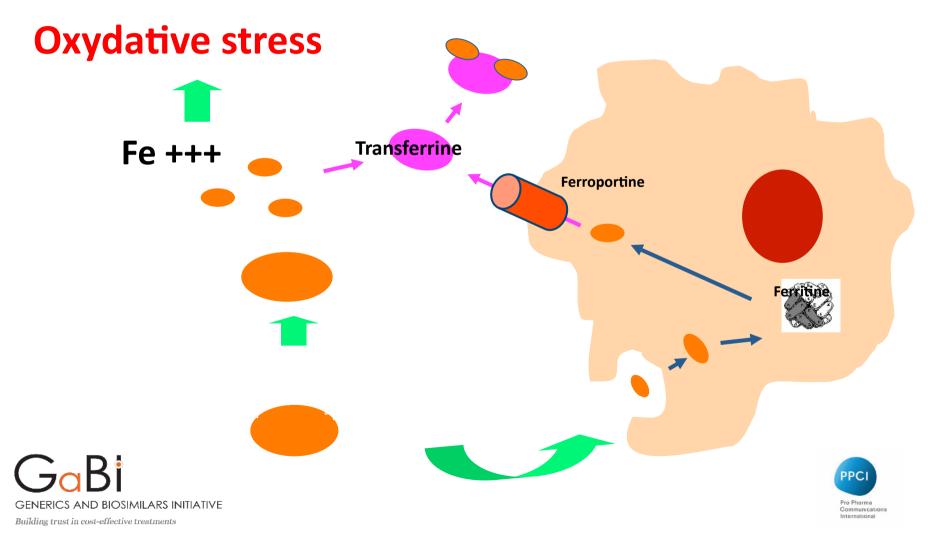




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# **Physiopathology**





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# There is now FOUR evidence-papers showing that ISS and Venofer® are not therapeutically equivalent

Do two intravenous iron sucrose preparations have the same efficacy.

J Rottembourg et al Nephrol Dial Transplant 2011;26:3262-3267.

Clinical case reports raise doubts about the therapeutic equivalence of an iron sucrose similar preparation compared with iron sucrose originator.

J Stein et al Curr Med Res Opin 2012;28:241-243.

Effects of intravenous iron on mononuclear cells during the haemodialysis session.

A Martin-Malo et al. Nephrol Dial Transpl 2012;27:2465-71.

Comparison of adverse events profile of Intravenous iron sucrose and Iron sucrose similar in post-partum and Gynecologic operative patients.

ES Lee, BR Park. Curr Med Res Opin 2013 29:147-151.

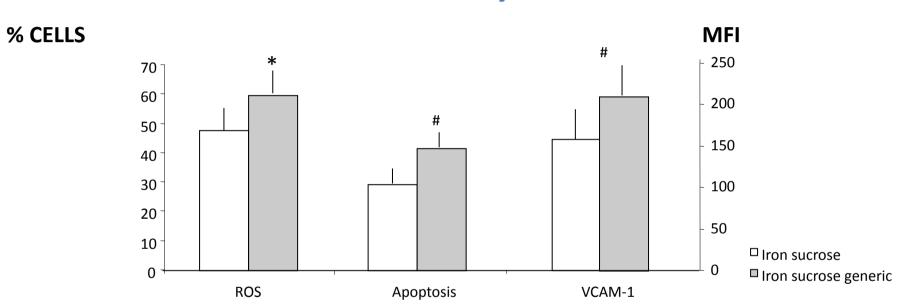






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# **Markers of the Oxydative Stress**



ROS: Reactive Oxygen Species. VCAM-1 Vascular cell adhesion molecule 1

Effects of intravenous iron on mononuclear cells during the haemodialysis session. A Martin-Malo et al. Nephrol Dial Transpl.2012;27:2465.

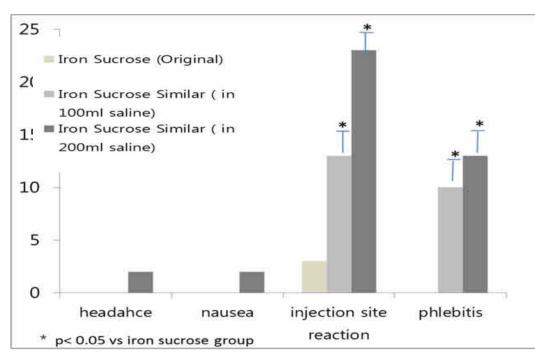






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# Comparison of adverse event profile of Intravenous Iron Sucrose and Iron Sucrose Similar in Post partum and Gynecologic operative patients



Retrospective analysis of patients treated in a single site over a period of 4 years with the originator Venofer® or ISS

Data collected for all treated patients in an anonymous manner with data points focusing on tolerability (adverse events during and after injection of IV iron)







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# Conclusions of the observational study

- Venofer® and Fer Mylan® may not be therapeutically equivalent.
- Switching to Fer Mylan® led to a destabilization of patients causing a significant decrease in Hb levels and iron indices.
- The change in iron indices raises questions on the stability of the Fer Mylan® complex and its impact on iron distribution (potentially deposited in the wrong compartment) and oxidative stress.
- Drug consumption to reach and maintain target Hb levels increased, resulting in patients being exposed to higher doses of DA and I.V. iron, which is a concern in a vulnerable population such as HD patients.
- The increase in total drug costs negated the economic rationale of the switch.
- These findings can have important consequences for the treatment of anaemia in HD patients



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# How do we differentiate Venofer® from iron sucrose similars?

Education strain Las

5-Safety signal with ISS

#### **4-Different Effectiveness**

↑costs due to
↑ ESA dose ↑ iron dose

#### **3-Different Efficacy Profiles**

 $\downarrow$  Hb level,  $\downarrow$  serum ferritin,  $\downarrow$  TSAT,  $\downarrow$  number of patients within Hb targets

#### **2-Different Toxicity Profiles**

Non Clinical evaluation: ↑ inflammation, oxidative stress parameters, blood pressure, liver enzymes, iron deposits, nitrosative stress ...

#### 1-Different Physicochemical & Structural Properties

Different specifications: MW, reduction potentials, turbidity points, kinetics of degradation



HPs = Healthcare Professionals, HAs = Healthcare Authorities



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# How the evidence on ISSs may change stakeholders' perspective



Are there enough data to evaluate ISSs?

Evidence

Do ISSs really help save money?



**Physicians** 

safe for my patients?

Are ISSs

Are ISSs as effective as Venofer®?





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# **Back Up Slides**





# JOURNAL OFFICIEL DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

# Avis relatif à l'octroi d'autorisation de mise sur le marché de spécialités pharmaceutiques

Spécialité dénommée ENALAVIS 20 mg/12,5 mg, comprimé sécable, code identifiant de spécialité : 6 694 984 8 :

MEDIS EHF.

Composition: maléate d'énalapril 20 mg, hydrochlorothiazide 12,5 mg, pour un comprimé. – Codes identifiants de présentation: 388 396-8 ou 34009 388 396 8 5 (28 comprimés sous plaquettes thermoformées [aluminium/PVC]); 388 397-4 ou 34009 388 397 4 6 (28 comprimés en flacon [polypropylène] avec fermeture de sécurité enfant); cette spécialité est un générique de CO RENITEC, comprimé sécable (décision du 16 octobre 2008).

Spécialité dénommée FER MYLAN 100 mg/5 ml, solution à diluer pour perfusion, code identifiant de spécialité : 6 388 943 1 :

MYLAN SAS.

Composition: fer 100 mg (sous forme de complexe d'hydroxyde ferrique, saccharose 2 700 mg), pour 5 ml de solution injectable. – Codes identifiants de présentation: 574 036-8 ou 34009 574 036 8 3 (5 ml en ampoule [en verre/brun]; boîte de 1); 574 037-4 ou 34009 574 037 4 4 (5 ml en ampoule [en verre/brun]; boîte de 5); 574 038-0 ou 34009 574 038 0 5 (5 ml en ampoule [en verre/brun]; boîte de 10); 574 039-7 ou 34009 574 039 7 3 (5 ml en ampoule [en verre/brun]; boîte de 20) (décision du 27 octobre 2008).

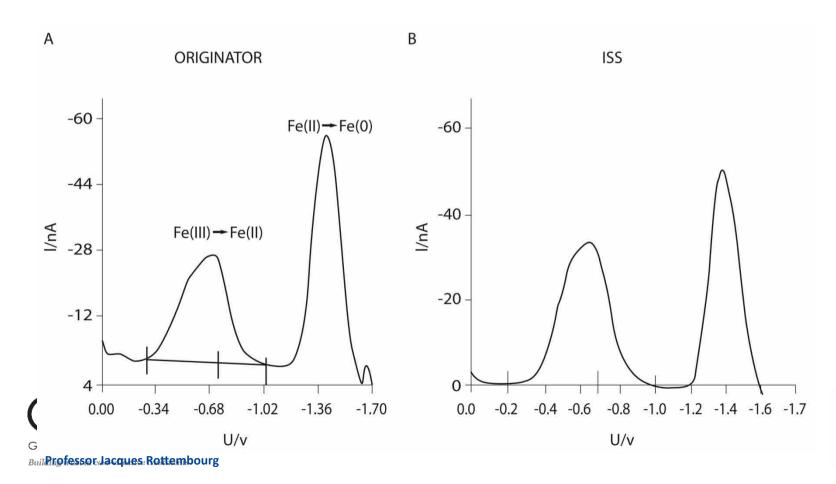






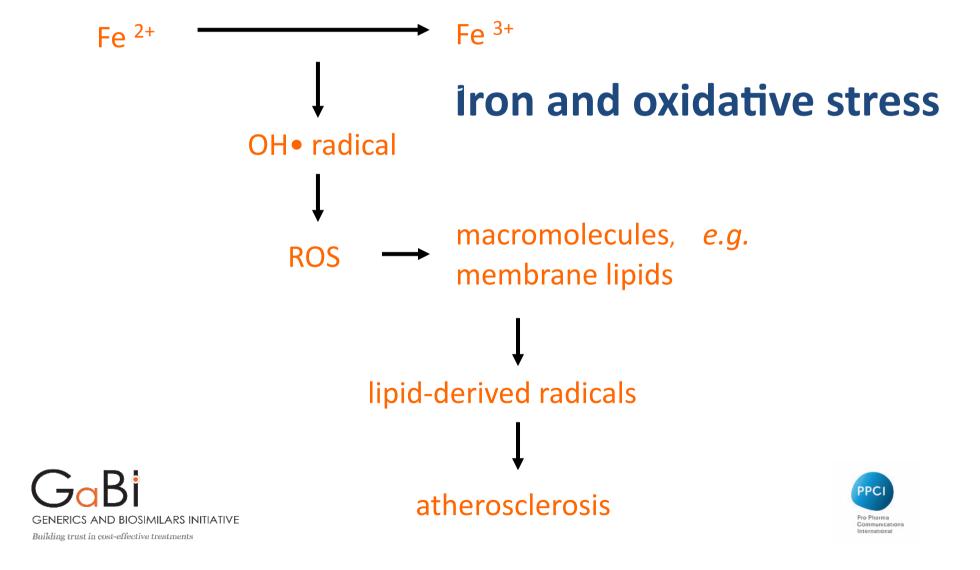
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# The polarographic representation of Venofer® and an ISS are not the same





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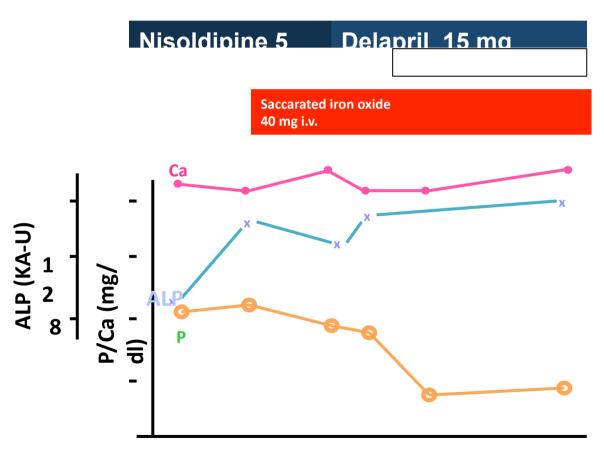
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# **Increased oxidative stress**

- Because of its ability to generate radical formation in vitro, iron has been implicated as a cause of oxidative stress
- Association between iron and oxidative stress in in vitro studies<sup>1,2</sup>
- All i.v. iron preparations show potential to increase oxidative stress, but evidence is transient and lacking in clinical situations<sup>3</sup>



# Hypophosphataemia following i.v. iron









# 8 October 2013, Hilton Kuala Lumpur, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia **Anaemia drug expenditure**

	Period 1 n=75	Period 2 n=75	Difference P2-P1	% change
Iron – total cost – all patients	11,981 €	12,674 €	693 €	+6%
Mean iron cost/ patient	160 €	169 €	9€	+6%
DA total cost – all patients	108,060 €	121,643 €	13,583 €	+13%
Mean DA cost/patient	1,441 €	1,622 €	181 €	+13%
Anaemia drug total costs	120,040 €	134,316 €	14,276 €	+12%
Mean cost/patient	1,601 €	1,791 €	190 €	+12%







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# Consumo de erythropoyetina en relacion con el typo de hierro sacarosa administrado

J. Carreras Bassa, R. Gallo, T. Olaya, G Villalobos, A. Foraster

- Patients received Venofer® in 2009 and Feriv® in 2010.
- The mean Hemoglobin level was 11.52±0.1 g/dl in 2009 and 11.37±0.2 g/dl in 2010.
- There was an increase of about 12% in the use of different ESA.
- Ferritin levels was quite maintained.
- But nothing about the consumption of Iron.
- And the patients are not the same.

